

Sidewalk Maintenance Policy



Pedestrian Council Meeting
April 24, 2018

Agenda

- Why?
- What?
- Who?
- Where?
- When?
- Recap



Why?

- Sidewalk and Multi-Use Path Maintenance Policy
 - Policy Implement (P.I.) O-02
 - Effective June 17, 2013
 - Primary Responsibility: Director of Maintenance & Operations (M&O)
 - Goal: Maintain sidewalks in operable and readily accessible working condition.

Why?

- Justification
 - Title 23 USC 116. Maintenance
 - “...requires the State transportation department to maintain...any project constructed...”
 - * Town Agreements may define maintenance by others.
 - Title 28 CFR: Judicial Administration Part 35 – Subpart B – General Requirements
 - “...requires a public entity to maintain sidewalks...in operable and readily accessible working condition.”

Why?

- Justification
 - Complete Streets Policy (P.I. O-6)
 - “...walking is the most fundamental mode of physical transportation...”
 - “...promote safe access for all users...”
 - Americans with Disabilities Act
 - “...equal opportunity...for people with disabilities...”

What?

- DelDOT Does Not Maintain Sidewalks:
 - Owned or maintained by municipalities;
 - Located in subdivisions;
 - Privately owned;
 - Maintained by others.
- DelDOT maintains the remaining sidewalks located in the state right-of-way.

What?

- Structural Repairs
 - Eliminate horizontal gaps $>0.5''$
 - Eliminate vertical gaps $>0.25''$
 - Repair deteriorated pavement
 - Eliminate depressions that trap water/ice

What?

- Vegetation Control
 - Removal of woody vegetation and/or noxious weeds encroaching on the sidewalk to provide 8 foot vertical clearance and 1 foot horizontal clearance

What?

- Snow Removal
 - In conjunction with established priorities for snow removal for sidewalks will commence immediately after completion of roads classified as “Local” and subdivisions.
 - Sidewalks will be prioritized based on pedestrian traffic, high densities of elderly and disabled, schools, transit routes, and other high volume pedestrian facilities.

What?

- All other maintenance, such as sweeping and trash removal, will be performed as resources are available within the Department.

What?

- M&O addresses structural repairs, vegetation control, and other sidewalk maintenance based on complaints.
- M&O manages snow removal utilizing contractors.

Who?

- Sidewalk Snow Removal Contractual Services
 - Contract DOT1503 Emergency Snow and Ice Removal
 - Used this contract in 2013-14
 - Hourly rate for equipment and operator

Who?

- DelDOT Employees
 - M&O Employees 1st Priority – Roadways
 - Volunteers & Report When Contacted (RWC)
 - Would need sidewalk equipment
 - Performing Inspection
 - Training, Scheduling, Documentation, etc.

Who?

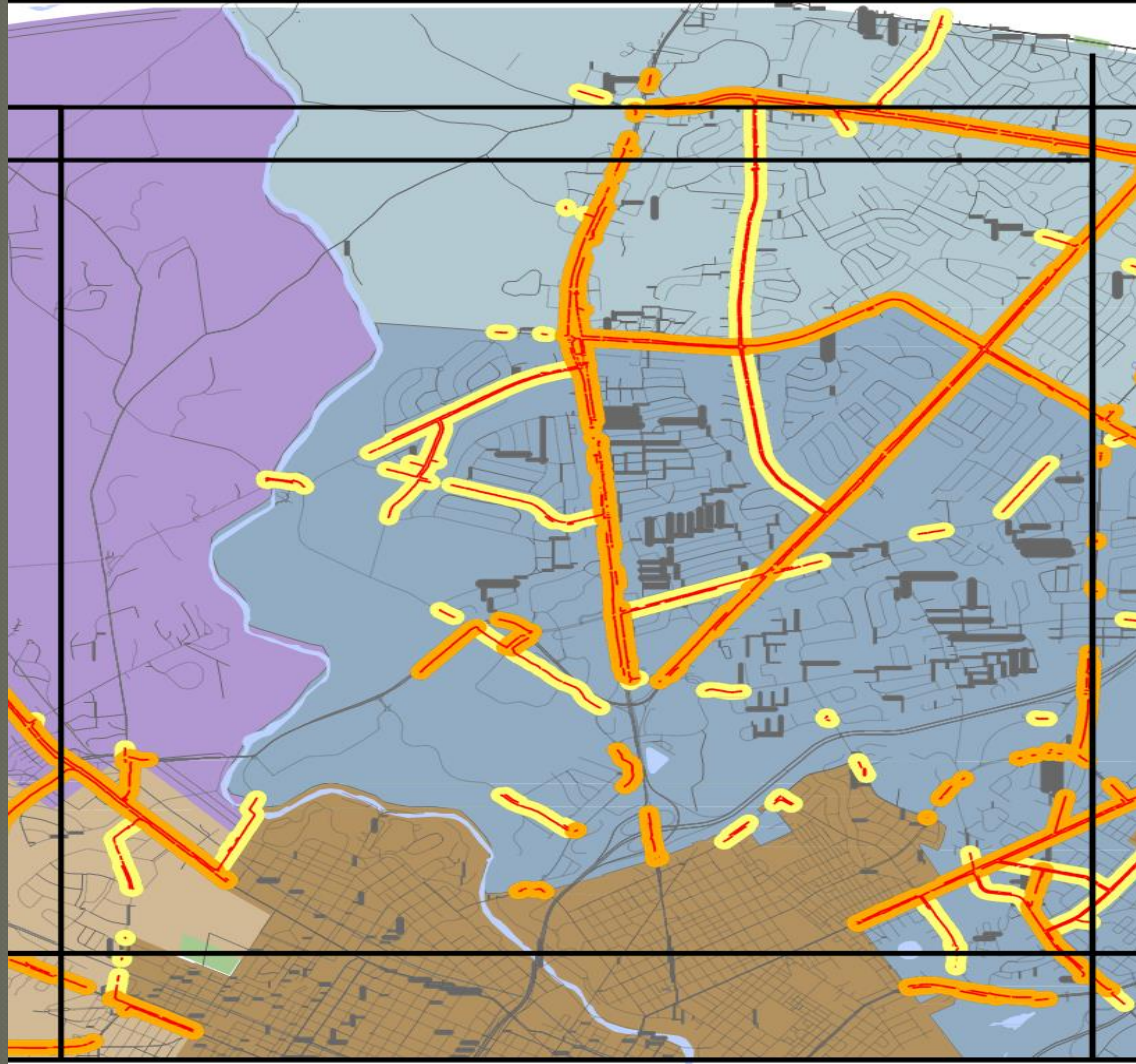
- Shared Responsibility with Adjacent Property Owners
 - Common approach in incorporated areas
 - 43 of 57 municipalities in Delaware have sidewalk regulations (2012)
 - Issues with consistent enforcement
 - Requires legislation to implement

Where?

Interstates	0
Other Freeway/Expressways	0.3
Principal Arterials	83.2
Minor Arterials	61.2
Primary Sidewalks Total	144.7
Major Collectors	66.3
Minor Collectors	0.2
Local Roads	26.5
Secondary Sidewalks Total	93.0
Total Sidewalk Miles	237.7

- Target primary sidewalks beginning at the City of Wilmington and work outwards.

Where?



When?

- Minimum of four (4) inches of snow and ice
 - Reported DelDOT Website for Official Snowfall Accumulations
- As directed by the Department
 - Factor in forecast
 - Additional storms, warm weather, etc.



Recap

- Issues

- Contractor's Insurance
 - Not Indemnified
- Payment Rates
 - Year 1 Requested Proposals
 - Year 2 Force Account Rates
 - Expensive, Crew Size, Interest, Ability to Complete the Work



Recap

- Issues

- Maintenance of Traffic
 - Added Truck Mounted Attenuators
- Sidewalks Plowed In
 - Typically start 2 days after plowing the streets
 - Heavy, compacted snow and ice
 - Curb ramps, street corners plowed in by others
 - Equipment - Walk Behind Mini Skid Steers, Dingos, Bobcats performed well

Recap



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Recap

- Issues
 - Property Damage
 - Turf damage – Spring Repairs
 - Requests for Additional Locations as Public Awareness Grows
 - Direct Inquiries to Public Relations
 - Forward to various groups as appropriate:
 - M&O Districts, Insurance Office, ADA Coordinator, etc.

Recap

- Issues
 - Significant Cost
 - Potentially short term benefit

Recap

- Benefits
 - Improved Safety
 - Pedestrians not walking in the street
 - Pedestrians using sidewalks and bus stops as soon as they were cleared
 - Meeting Policy Requirements

Questions & Comments

